

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Masahiro ARAI et al.

Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR  
CONTROLLING INTAKE AIR  
BY VARIABLE VALVE TIMING

Appl. No.: Unassigned

Filing Date: 12/03/2000

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: Unassigned

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendment be entered into the application:

**In the Specification:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 9, line 9, please change "December 2, 2000," to --December 4, 2000,--.